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Attorney Docket No.: 218728-000105

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Carlo Rubbia

Serial No.: 09/782,558

Filed: February 13, 2001

Art Unit: 3641

Confirmation No.: 9660

Examiner: Ricardo J. Palabrica

Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR HEATING
GAS FROM A THIN LAYER OF NUCLEAR FUEL,
AND SPACE ENGINE USING SUCH METHOD

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Name

August 7, 2003

Date of Signature

Commissioner for Patents
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AMENDMENT C

Dear Sir:

09/24/2003 DBATES 00000004 182284 09782558

In response to the Office Action mailed May 7, 2003, please amend the claims of the
application as follows.

Adjustment date: 01/08/2004 EEKUBAY1
09/24/2003 DBATES 00000004 182284 09782558
02 FC:1802 324.00 CR



Ref & Dep

Room - 307

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
DIVISION

Attorney Docket No.: 218728-000105

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December 22, 2003

Date

Carlo Rubbia

Name

December 22, 2003

Date of Signature

Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR HEATING GAS FROM A THIN LAYER OF NUCLEAR FUEL, AND SPACE ENGINE USING SUCH METHOD

CUSTOMER NO. 28465

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR REFUND UNDER 37 CFR 1.26

Dear Sir:

The above-identified United States patent application was filed with the U.S. Patent Office on February 13, 2001 with an indication that large entity status applies. This application was filed with seventy-three claims, three of which were independent claims.

On August 7, 2003, Applicant filed Amendment C in response to an Office Action dated May 7, 2003 (Examiner's Paper No. 23). With the filing of Amendment C, this application contained sixty-five claims, five of which were independent. On September 24, 2003, Deposit

PATENT MAINTENANCE
DUES

Attorney Docket No. 218728-000105

2004 JAN -2 AM 11:42

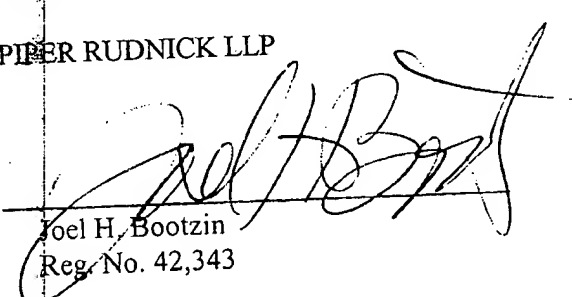
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Account No. 18-2284 of Piper Rudnick LLP was charged \$168.00 for the two additional independent claims. Also, on September 24, 2003, a second charge in the amount of \$324.00 was charged against Deposit Account No. 18-2284 for "claims in excess of twenty" (see Exhibit A attached hereto). Applicant believes this later charge to be in error. With the filing of Amendment C, the above-identified patent application contained a total of sixty-five claims, and Applicant had paid for a total of seventy-three claims with the payment of the filing fee for the above-identified patent application. Accordingly, Applicant believes that this charge in the amount of \$324.00 to Deposit Account No. 18-2284 was in error and should be refunded.

In view of the above comments, please credit \$324.00 to Deposit Account No. 18-2284 of Piper Rudnick LLP. This sheet is transmitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP


Joel H. Bootzin
Reg. No. 42,343

PIPER RUDNICK LLP
P.O. Box 64807
Chicago, Illinois 60664-0807

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EXHIBIT A

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ATT MARK L. FELDMAN ESQ
203 N LASALLE STREET SUITE 1800

CHICAGO IL 60601-1293

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